

Approved Release 2002/05/07 : CIA-RDP79M00467A002700060009-8

176001896

April 14, 1976

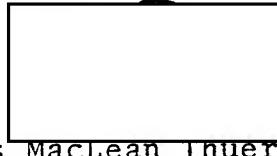
MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : Angus MacLean Thuermer
Assistant to the Director
SUBJECT : David Kraslows' Reporters' Luncheon Group

David Kraslow, Chief of Bureau of Cox Newspapers wants you to come to luncheon on May 24th. I'll check the site but it will probably be at the Sheraton-Carlton.

Dave tells me that the following persons normally attend, although there are substitutions.

Dave Broder, Washington Post
Dave Kraslow, Cox Newspaper
Al Otten, Wall Street Journal
Al Blanchard, Detroit News
Jack Kole, Milwaukee Journal
Paul Duke, Public Broadcasting
Bill Monroe, Meet the Press
Tom Littlewood, Chicago Sun-Times
Dick Dudman, St. Louis Post Dispatch
Jack Nelson, LA Times

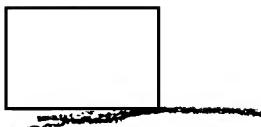
STATINT


Angus MacLean Thuermer

Accept for May 24th _____

Cannot make 24th date 

*Angus really rather
I'd postpone for awhile
longer, not too soon
to do this*



Executive Registry

76-1896

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------|
| UNCLASSIFIED | CONFIDENTIAL | SECRET |
|--------------|--------------|--------|

OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

| TO | NAME AND ADDRESS | DATE | INITIALS |
|-------------|------------------|----------------|----------|
| 1 | DCI | 16 APR 1976 | MM |
| 2 | BX. 3 | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | A/DCI | | |
| 5 | | | |
| 6 | | | |
| ACTION | DIRECT REPLY | PREPARE REPLY | |
| APPROVAL | DISPATCH | RECOMMENDATION | |
| COMMENT | FILE | RETURN | |
| CONCURRENCE | INFORMATION | SIGNATURE | |

Remarks:

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO. | DATE |
| A/DCI | 4/14 |
| UNCLASSIFIED | CONFID |
| SECRET | |

FORM NO. 237 Use previous editions
1-67

(40)

McLean Undermer

STATINTL

, 1976

STATINTL

elligence

or

rs' Luncheon Group

ox Newspapers wants
11 check the site
Carlton.

rsons normally

h

McLean Undermer

*Am
not available
too early
longer
to do this*

*Executive Registry
Room 7-E-12
Headquarters*

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

1
2
3
4

D A V Back C O B

THE VICE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON

attained
noted by
DC, 4/20/76



April 14, 1976

Dear George:

I appreciate your sending me a copy of your March 31 letter to Publishers' Auxiliary. I was certain you were misquoted when I saw it in the first place.

With warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive ink, appearing to read "Nelson".

The Honorable George Bush
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

(EX-78 REGISTRY FILE)

Executive Registry

76-7619

31 March 1976

Editor
Publishers' Auxiliary
491 National Press Bldg.
14th and F Sts., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20045

Dear Sir:

I noted in your edition of March 25, 1976 that some of the remarks attributed to me in my appearance before the National Newspaper Association seem to have been taken out of context. I refer specifically to the statement in paragraph three which indicates that I believe some of the findings of the Rockefeller Commission were "viciously untrue."

While I do not have a verbatim transcript of my remarks, I am certain that I made no such statement concerning the Commission's findings. I did, however, state that many of the charges and allegations made against the CIA and the Intelligence Community were "viciously untrue." These charges were not made by the Rockefeller Commission and, indeed, the Commission conducted a responsible and serious study into the charges. Its recommendations have been incorporated into the President's recent Executive Order regarding the Intelligence Community. It is most unfortunate that my remarks should have been juxtaposed in this fashion. I am sure it was unintentional.

I enjoyed meeting with the National Newspaper Association and hope that you could publish this letter to set the record straight.

Sincerely,



7s/ George Bush

George Bush
Director

cc: Vice President
Rockefeller

STATINTL

STATINTL

[redacted] mb (30 Mar 76)

1-DCI 1-[redacted]
1-A/DCI 1-ER

Some CIA probe findings untrue, Bush claims

WASHINGTON=George Bush, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, said his organization deserves the support of the American people and feels it will get it once the public is better informed about the role of the agency.

Bush appeared before a morning conference of the National Newspaper Assn. in a new effort to give the American public a peek at what it regards as one of the most intriguing and mysterious of its government agencies.

REFERRING TO THE recently-concluded Rockefeller commission hearings on the CIA, Bush said while much of the committee's findings were factual, others were "viciously untrue." Bush said the CIA in many instances had already moved to implement many of the recommendations which came out of the hearings. Noting that this was the first airing of CIA operations since it was established in 1947, Bush said the facelift would be healthy for the agency.

"The intelligence group was nurtured with the idea that it must have great secrecy but things have changed," Bush told an NNA Government Affairs Conference briefing.

BUSH TOLD THE newspaper editors and publishers assembled at the Mayflower Hotel here that the CIA would cooperate fully with congressional recommendations for revamping. The CIA director received enthusiastic applause when he added that hand in hand with this cooperation must come the assurance that Congress will respect the secrets of the intelligence community.

Bush said he regrets that much of the debate over the CIA, which was fostered by the unearthing at the Rockefeller commission hearings of CIA involvement in coups and assassination plots, revolved around secrecy. He said he would strongly support legislation which would protect the agency's sources and methods.

Bush said he would oppose laws similar to Britain's Secrecy Acts which penalizes journalists for leaking government-classified information.

He favored declassification of less sensitive U.S. information noting that it would be to the agency's benefit and gain it public support.

ONE AREA WHERE he would draw the line is in making public the CIA's budget. "I don't want to help the KBG (the Russian intelligence-gathering agency) or anyone else by giving parameters on CIA operations," he said.

The CIA, said its director, has fallen victim to the general atmosphere of cynicism which prevails in the U.S. He said a current Robert Redford movie, "Three Days of the Condor," perpetuates the idea that the CIA is an all-powerful agency, above the restraints of the Constitution.

Noting that the movie leaves the impression that the CIA could possibly control the New York Times, Bush quipped, "If we are, we're not doing a good job."

In light of the coup and assassination allegations made against it, Bush was quick to acknowledge that there have been some "bad things" associated with the CIA, but that those allegations shouldn't be taken as indicative of the agency as a whole. "I don't think we deserve that kind of rap," Bush told the NNA conference. And, he added, he felt that those negative feelings weren't prevalent in the grass roots of the American public.

Pull VP of c?
Letter to sel?

76-7609

| TRANSMITTAL SLIP | | DATE |
|------------------|----------|-----------|
| TO: A/DCI | | |
| ROOM NO. | BUILDING | |
| REMARKS: | | |
| FROM: DCI | | |
| ROOM NO. | BUILDING | EXTENSION |

FORM NO.
1 FEB 55 241

REPLACES FORM 38-8
WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

STT

add
sentence
on yellow
slip - will fit without
major change

| | | |
|---|----------|-----------|
| TRANSMITTAL SLIP | | DATE |
| TO: | DCI | |
| ROOM NO. | BUILDING | (4) |
| REMARKS: | | |
| <p>Good letter</p> <p>Fix add</p> <p>add Signature.</p> <p>This sentence (par 2) after the <u>forwards</u> - &</p> <p>I am sure it was unintentional</p> | | |
| FROM: | (4) | |
| ROOM NO. | BUILDING | EXTENSION |

FORM NO. 241
1 FEB 55

REPLACES FORM 36-8
WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

→ YELLOW SLIP



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Executive Registry
76 - 7609

Editor
Publishers' Auxiliary
491 National Press Bldg.
14th and F Sts., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20045

Dear Sir:

I noted in your edition of March 25, 1976 that some of the remarks attributed to me in my appearance before the National Newspaper Association seem to have been taken out of context. I refer specifically to the statement in paragraph three which indicates that I believe some of the findings of the Rockefeller Commission were "viciously untrue."

While I do not have a verbatim transcript of my remarks, I am certain that I made no such statement concerning the Commission's findings. I did, however, state that many of the charges and allegations made against the CIA and the Intelligence Community were "viciously untrue." These charges were not made by the Rockefeller Commission and, indeed, the Commission conducted a responsible and serious study into the charges. Its recommendations have been incorporated into the President's recent Executive Order regarding the Intelligence Community. It is most unfortunate that my remarks should have been juxtaposed in this fashion.

I enjoyed meeting with the National Newspaper Association and hope that you could publish this letter to set the record straight.

STATINTL

Sincerely

George Bush
Director

cc: Vice President
Rockefeller

